

**DYNAMICALLY SWITCHING QUANT MATRIX  
TABLES WITHIN AN MPEG-2 ENCODER**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A digital video encoder is presented adapted for  
5 dynamically switching between sets of quantizer matrix  
tables without pausing encoding of a stream of video data.  
Two or more sets of quantizer matrix tables are held at the  
encoder's quantization unit and compressed store interface  
for dynamically switching between sets of quant matrix  
10 tables at a picture boundary of the sequence of video data,  
i.e., without stopping encoding of the sequence of video  
data. Further, while one set of matrix tables is being  
employed to quantize the stream of video data, the encoder  
can be updating or modifying another set of quantization  
15 matrix tables, again without stopping encoding of the  
sequence of video data.